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## Sociology & Anthropology News

Georgia Southern University

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# Deb Pless Recognized for Outstanding Senior Companion Program

*August 20, 2018*

Please join us in congratulating Deb Pless, our Senior Companion coordinator, for being recognized on July 26th at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Region 5 Regional Community Collaborative Celebration for, “outstanding and admirable work in the mental health field of service to those we serve and for going above and beyond to help drive success through their commitment to achieve Pineland Community Service Board goals.” The program and Deb’s work, in particular, contribute positively to the lives of house-bound seniors across our region and are a demonstration of the department’s commitment to the quality of life of residents in our communities.

Posted in [Awards](#), [Gerontology](#), [Staff](#)

# Dr. Sweeney Tookes Work with GA Fishing Industry Recognized

*August 20, 2018*

Congratulations to Dr. Sweeney Tookes for having her ongoing work with Georgia’s coastal fishing industry featured in the Georgia Southern Foundation’s most recent Stewardship Report. Dr. Sweeney Tookes work is just one more example of how our faculty are creating an impact in our local community and beyond.

[To read the entire piece click here.](#)

Posted in [Anthropology](#), [Faculty in News](#)

# Sociology Alum Providing Support to People with Cancer

August 20, 2018



Congratulations to Lauren Kennedy, Georgia Southern Sociology Alum who recently accepted a position as the lead social work clinician at [The Loran Smith Center for Cancer Support at Piedmont Athens Regional](#). After completing her BS in Sociology in 2016, Lauren went on to earn her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Georgia in Athens. Lauren is a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) in Georgia and South Carolina. Having sociology as a foundation helped her become an effective social worker. She explains,

*"Rather than having a more psychological viewpoint, I am curious on the life around my client. I use my sociology background when I meet with my patients. It's not just what is going on mentally but all the external factors; disease, family, community, healthcare, transportation. When you can make all of those connections with your client, together you can problem solve and work on a solution."*

Posted in [Alumni](#), [Sociology Alumni](#)

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